supplies to the consumers in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) what has been the total allocation to the State of Maharashtra during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) whether Maharashtra has demanded additional kerosene quota during the festival month of August to October, if so, what is the Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The allocation of Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for Public Distribution System (PDS) during the last three years is as under:

('000 MTs.)

1992-93	. . . .	1482.36
1993-94	. . . .	1497.32
1994-95	. . . .	1511.76

(c) No such specific request has been received from the Government of Maharashtra.

Consumer Protection Act to cover Universities

78. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vice-Chancellor of University of Delhi has suggested that the Consumer Protection Act should cover Universities also;

(b) if so, whether Government are contemplating to bring Universities under the purview of the said Act; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Act applies to all services which are rendered for a consideration whether by Government, public sector, cooperative, joint or private sectors. The Act, however, does not apply to the services which are rendered free of charge or under a contract of personal service.

T.B. and Cancer among the Beedi Workers in Gujarat

79. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of incidents of T.B. and Cancer among the Beedi Workers in Gujarat State and how does it compare with all India average of percentage of incidence of such diseases; and

(b) how many hospitals have been opened for the Beedi Workers in the State with the details of their places and capacity?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No specific information is reported to be available on the incidence of T.B. and Cancer among Beedi Workers in Gujarat.

(b) No hospital has so far been set up for Beedi Workers in Gujarat. However, there are 6 dispensaries for Beedi Workers in Gujarat. A statement showing the places at which Beedi Workers dispensaries have been set up in Gujarat is given below.

Statement

BHILWARA REGION
STATE — GUJARAT

1. Static-cum-Mobile Dispensary, Patan Distt. Patan.
2. Static-cum-Mobile Dispensary, Vadnagar Distt. Mehansana.
3. Static-cum-Mobile Dispensary, Sarsa Distt. Kheda.
4. Static Dispensary, Ahmedabad Distt. Ahmedabad.
5. Static Dispensary, Borsad Distt. Kaira.

6. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Palanpur Distt. Mehansana.

Elimination of child Labour

80. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would furnish an update on its efforts to eliminate child labour in phased manner in deference to the directives of ILO and other international rights organisations;

(b) what has been the progress made on phasing out child labour in carpet, glass, fireworks/matches, hosiery/ garments sectors giving status on each sector; and

(c) whether the Labour Ministry has any plans to co-sponsor educational programmes/projects aimed at weaning away child labour and to equip them with literacy and vocational skills?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) India, being a founder member of ILO, would be required, from time to time, to provide information on progress of implementation of various Conventions ratified by India including on the Conventions relating to child labour.

(b) Under the National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) Scheme of the Ministry of Labour projects *inter-alia* cover the followings sectors:

Sector	Children covered
Glass	1500
Brassware	500
Locks	500
Carpet	2950
Slate	1900
Tile	100
Match & Fire Works	2350
Gem polishing	1000
Agriculture/ Chemicals	2000
Beedi	3000

The National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour has also identified 100 districts which have the highest incidence of Child Labour in the country.

It has been decided that projects to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations will be started as per the National Child Labour Project Scheme in these districts. Under this scheme children withdrawn from work will be provided with primary level education, vocational training, nutrition and stipends through the special schools. A workshop of these 100 District Collectors is scheduled to take place in New Delhi on September 13,14, 1995. The concerned Collectors have been requested to prepare project proposals in their respective districts based on the National Child Labour Project Scheme I. An allocation of Rs. 34.4 crores has been made for the current year to undertake projects for children withdrawn from work.

(c) A major activity undertaken under the NCLP is establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc., to the children withdrawn from employment. Voluntary agencies are also being financially assisted to the extent of 75% for taking up welfare projects for working children under Grants-in-aid Scheme.

Foreign exchange loss due to poor packaging of products.

81. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of foreign exchange loss suffered by the country due to rejections, spoilage and breakages arising from poor packaging of engineering and marine products, garments, handicrafts, fresh fruit and vegetables, during each of the last three years and so far in 1995 and the quantity